

PERSIANS ROUTED

Russians Report Victory Over Army of Insurgents.

Germans Resume Activities on Riga-Dvinsk Front.

MONTENEGRINS MAKE GAINS

Several Villages Have Been Taken From the Austrians.

Teutons Prepare for Offensive in Eastern Theater.

A severe repulse for the Turks by the British Mesopotamian army at Kut-el-Amara on the Tigris is reported by the British commander, General Townshend. The Turks attacked determinedly but were beaten off their losses being from 500 to 800 killed and wounded. It is declared while the British casualties were under 200.

Petrograd reports a victory for the Russians in Persia against a well armed force that included several thousand Persian insurgent guerrillas. The insurgent army fled after it had suffered heavy losses, it is declared. On the Riga-Dvinsk front in Russia the Germans have resumed their activity according to Petrograd, but without any gain of ground being recorded. Berlin declares that nothing worth mentioning has occurred on the eastern front.

Montenegrins in Advance. On the front in France neither British nor Paris reports operations of the Montenegrins, who are continuing the offensive, is reported by their war office. They have taken several villages from the Austrians and inflicted heavy losses, their statement asserts. General Castelnau, chief of the French general staff who is in Athens, declared in an interview that it would be impossible for the allied forces to be ousted from Saloniki, where he had spent several days examining the ground.

Two auxiliary classes of Greek troops have been disbanded according to a news agency dispatch from Athens. Apparently, submarines have again been active in British waters or near by. The sinking of three steamers was reported today, one of them a steamer of more than four thousand tons, the Minster Beernaert, a Belgian owned craft, last reported at London. The best loads of the crew from this steamer are missing. The other steamers sunk were British, the Hadley of 1,777 tons, and the British steamer 1,432 tons, while the British steamer Embala of 1,172 tons was beached at the mouth of the Thames after forward.

German Plan Offensive. London, Dec. 27.—Conflicting reports continue to reach London from the scene of the near eastern campaign. Statements from some sources make it appear the Teutonic allies are preparing to launch an offensive movement in conjunction with the Bulgarians and Turks. Other advice says the Bulgarians fear to attack lest they be caught between the two. Berlin is the strait of territory from the Saloniki-Dolra to the Saloniki-Gievsk railroad.

The central powers are still negotiating with Greece. An interview with Premier Skoufodelis forecasts failure of the efforts to prevent an invasion of Greece Macedonia. It is estimated that if an invasion is undertaken the Athens government will divert its efforts toward obtaining guarantees of the evacuation of Greek territory immediately following the completion of military operations. Along the western front Paris reports successful artillery operations by the French in the Champagne and Vosges. Berlin says operations are restricted by incessant rains.

The British public is looking forward with keen interest to today's cabinet meeting. It is expected the cabinet will consider the report of the Earl of Derby in regard to his enlist-

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Between now and January 1. Include in that order

10 lbs. Pure Granulated Sugar... 50c

With \$2.00 worth of other groceries.

TUESDAY SPECIALS

Sweet Corn, dried, fine quality, 15c
Sorghum, pure, very fine, 15c
No. 5 split peas, No. 10 split peas, 15c
Burrhead corn, (the extra value), 15c
Soy Beans, fancy, 3 lbs., 40c
Canned Pumpkin, good quality, 3c
Large cans, 24c
Canned Meat, 10c
Canned Nuts, fancy all new nuts, 10c
2 lbs. for 25c
Popcorn fine on the ear, 8c
Fresh Oysters, large select, 25c
Pint 20c; quart 35c

Perfection Big Four Banquet White Leaf 48-lb. sack (With \$4.00 Order of other Groceries or Meats).

Flour \$1.27

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ment plan, with special reference to the effect of this report on the question whether military service shall be compulsory.

Italy Gets Prisoners. Rome, Dec. 26.—Serbia has turned over to Italy 30,000 Austrian prisoners, who are being interned in Sardinia, being accompanied there by Serbian officers.

A dispatch from Marseilles on December 17 said that 40,000 soldiers and 40,000 officers, German and Austro-Hungarian, were taken prisoner by the Serbians had arrived there on their way to a concentration camp.

BRITISH REPULSE TURKS. Ottoman Attack at Kut-el-Amara Broken With Heavy Loss.

Delhi, Dec. 27.—(Via London, Dec. 27).—A vigorous Turkish assault against the British forces at Kut-el-Amara was driven back Saturday with heavy losses, according to an official report received from General Townshend, the British commander.

The report says: "Yesterday the enemy launched a determined attack against a portion of our positions which was repulsed with an enemy loss of from 600 to 800 killed and wounded. Our casualties were 200."

Bombardment in Lorraine. Paris, Dec. 27.—The following statement was issued this afternoon at the war office: "There were no signs of importance last night except in Lorraine, where our artillery bombarded the positions of the enemy in the vicinity of Chateau-Salins, Frecey, southwest of Chateau-Salins."

BIGGEST OF YEAR

St. John's Day Banquet of Orient Lodge No. 51.

Provision Made for the Total Membership of 900.

The forty-fifth annual St. John's day banquet will be served tonight at Masonic temple for Orient lodge No. 51. Nine hundred people will be served. "The banquet is the largest ever served this year by William J. Bond, the lodge caterer."

Table decorations are in blue with the usual Masonic elaborations. C. B. Burge will preside as toastmaster, introducing: Z. B. Hopkins, who will speak on "The Future of Masonry"; Miss Wade Hardy, who will sing "Keep Your Home Fires Burning"; Fred Crouch Miller on "The Future of Masonry"; The Orient quartette, Brothers Strain, Sewell, Shaw and Spreng; Giles H. Lamb, depute; and the Grand lodge of Kansas, which will conclude the speech-making with the address, "St. John the Baptist in Masonry."

The menu this evening will be: Olives, celery, pickled beets, cold ham, jelly, fruit, cold tongue, creamed minced turkey patties, mashed potatoes, brown gravy, creamed peas, sage dressing, cranberry jelly, marker buttons, rolls, French puffs, assorted fruit, blanched almonds, after dinner mints, coffee, candy favors for the ladies, Mrs. Burdett's Santa Fe orchestra will play.

Membership of 900. Orient lodge 51 is the second largest Masonic lodge in Kansas. The organization has a membership of 900. The new officers for 1916 are: John Wilton, master; Harry Blanchard, senior warden; E. B. Sewell, junior warden; Allen French, senior deacon; Edgar May, junior deacon; C. E. Jones, senior steward; S. D. Flora, junior steward; Fred S. Fuller, Tyler; Elmer P. Strain, chaplain; Matthew Carle, master of properties; John T. Wilton, organist; Arthur Tucker, electrician and stage director.

"Billy" Bond, the "High Priest of the Inner Man" of Topeka Masonry kept a written account of what he is using to feed the crowd. The figures are valuable to domestic science students. He has a record of 100 dinners of whom only plan big banquets on paper. During the course of the evening, the 900 members of Orient lodge will eat four gallons of coffee, eight gallons of beets, 125 bunches of celery, 900 Jello-fruit, fifty pounds of boiled ham, forty large tongues, six bunches of potatoes, twelve gallons of peas, fifty pounds of flour for gravy, twenty-five quarts of cranberries, thirty gallons of ice cream, 2,700 small cakes, three to a plate; fifteen pounds of almonds; forty pounds of cream de mints; fifty gallons of butter; fifteen pounds of butter; 2,000 rolls; two cases of grapes, apples, oranges and bananas; seventy-five gallons of beer; 100 gallons of soda water. Mr. Bond makes his coffee in a vat as large as a noshed.

LADIES' GIFT NIGHT

Rotary Club Will Hold Holiday Meeting on Wednesday Evening.

The holiday meeting of the Topeka Rotary club will be held Wednesday night at 6 o'clock at the Mills ton hotel. The affair will be a ladies' gift night and every member of the club has been requested to bring a gift for a lady.

The announcement for the meeting states that there will be "duck, brain tests, music, readings, stunts and a real sizzling season finale." The entertainment committee has planned for 150 guests and a program that will make everyone have the time of his life.

TO GET 'EM ON WAGON

Iowa Judge Holds Drunks in Jail Until New Year's Day.

Waterloo, Ia., Dec. 27.—Men convicted of drunkenness here are being sentenced to jail until after the saloons are closed by state law January 1. Police Judge Joseph said he was taking this course in order to give them a start on the water wagon.

"By keeping them in jail until after the saloons are closed, it will prevent any last hour debauch," said the judge. "Maybe some of them, having stayed away from booze that long, will have courage to quit the habit for good. I hope so, anyway."

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

The following marriage licenses have been issued from the office of Judge Hugh MacFarland, probate judge:

Oscar Cuthron, aged 21, Topeka, and Fay Golden, aged 20, Chillicothe, Mo.

G. Robertson Eakin, age 37, Marshall, Mo., and Aveline Wharton, age 26, Topeka.

COME TO TOPEKA

Eastern Suffrage Leaders May Move Here.

This State Could Aid in Winning the Ballot.

LOOKING TO THE WEST NOW

Defeat in New York and New Jersey Discouraging.

Kansas Will Profit Materially From New Move.

Eastern suffrage leaders are planning to move to Kansas in order to win the ballot. A movement started in New York last week by Mrs. Harriett Stanton Blatch will probably mean that a number of prominent eastern women will move to Topeka in the next few months that they may vote in the 1916 election. Some of these women are rich. They will not only make Kansas their permanent homes, but will invest their money and put their taxes in Kansas.

That Kansas is to profit materially from the equal suffrage amendment is the belief of a number of women who have moved here. Mrs. Blatch's movement to bring eastern suffragettes to this state. Defeat of suffrage in New Jersey and New York in the recent state wide elections is said to have disgusted a number of eastern women and they look to a home in the western state in realization of their dream of the ballot.

Only Six Months Here.

In Kansas but six months are required in which to win the ballot. In number of other states where suffrage has been given, the woman's residence is required before a new voter has attained his or her rights. These facts are known to the women who have moved here. Most of them are well known in the various states and Kansas is their new Utopia.

Years ago Mrs. Blatch questioned women who were for suffrage and who were different from those in their home states as to why they didn't move to the states that had laws in which they believed. After the defeat of woman suffrage in the East this fall she determined to practice what she often suggested as a possible panacea for the women's problem.

She announced her plan to move to Kansas at the recent convention in Washington and immediately had quite a company of followers. Mrs. Blatch and her party will leave for their new political home, if they don't change their minds. Mrs. Blatch and her party will leave for their new political home, if they don't change their minds. Mrs. Blatch and her party will leave for their new political home, if they don't change their minds.

"Canada of the Women." When it was suggested to these women that they might be running away from the issue of woman suffrage, they replied that they were not running away from the issue of woman suffrage, they were running toward it.

With the coming of the women to Kansas, the fight for national suffrage will be waged with renewed vigor. With the new blood in Kansas, this state will be made the center of suffrage activities. The east's best women will be through red hot fights for the ballot and with the aid and support of their Kansas sisters, will go into the campaign for a national woman's suffrage.

Hope They Will Go.

The leaving of the easterners for the west, will be greeted with joy by many men and some women who have longed for the granting of the ballot to the women.

"I hope they will go," is the remark credited to Alice Hamilton, a New York writer of the national association opposed to equal suffrage. "They will never get anything that they want here."

Charles S. Fairchild is credited with the remark: "If the women think the vote is worth living in Kansas for, let them go there and may they be satisfied."

But to the women, it is a real pilgrimage—another desert journey as the Pilgrim Fathers, they assert.

DENIED KISS; KILLED

Dance Quarrel Leads to Broken Engagement and Fatal Shooting.

Molena, Ga., Dec. 27.—Refused a farewell kiss by Miss Ida Elton after she had told him she intended to postpone their wedding which had been announced for next Wednesday. Leaning forward to kiss her, he was struck by a bullet from a revolver which she had hidden in her dress.

The announcement for the meeting states that there will be "duck, brain tests, music, readings, stunts and a real sizzling season finale." The entertainment committee has planned for 150 guests and a program that will make everyone have the time of his life.

DE FACTO CONTROLS

New Government Gets Underway at Juarez Today.

El Paso, Dec. 27.—Control of the civil government of Juarez by the Mexican de facto government began today with the installation of officials. The new government is expected to be established by the installation of officials. The new government is expected to be established by the installation of officials.

Acquitted of Murder.

Nyack, N. Y., Dec. 27.—William V. Canby, former town clerk of Haverstraw, who was acquitted of the murder of his young son-in-law, Eugene E. Newman, about a year ago, was today sentenced to not less than three years and not more than six years and four months in prison. He was convicted of forgery a few days ago.

TABLE TALK

AT THE COMMERCIAL CLUB

There was renewed interest at the club this noon. The holiday rush season being over the business men drifted back to their usual noonday lunch at the club. Today was not the usual blue Monday.

Have you heard the Commercial club's imperial quartet? With Bartlett at the piano, and Kelley, Bennett and Latner on the side there's a melody—yes that is the word. The quartet worked out this noon much to the pleasure of the club members.

Superintendent H. B. Wilson and the school board's attorneys, H. G. Larimer and T. F. Garver, in the high school sorority case had lunch together at the club this noon. The men were regarded with interest when they entered the room. Apparently the sorority case is receiving much attention from the business men as well as the school kids.

Next Wednesday noon Donald Thompson will speak to the members of the club on the European war as he sees it. Thompson has been at the front for the Paramount picture corporation and he has seen the great European conflict at close range.

Some bad pool and billiard games were played at the club this noon. Apparently heavy eating affects billiard players just as much as it does orators and actors.

DR. COOK IN JAIL?

North Pole Explorer Is Lost in Russian Siberia.

The Czar May Be Holding Him as a Spy.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 27.—That Dr. Frederick A. Cook, of North Pole fame, is being held in Petrograd, Russia, as a suspected German spy, is the opinion expressed by F. S. Brooks, motion picture operator for the explorer, who is in San Francisco on his return from Dr. Cook's expedition to India.

"I left Dr. Cook in Siberia, from whence he intended to return to the United States through Russia and Norway," said Brooks. "He agreed that he was taking a big chance when we parted. The Russian government is very stringent. Dr. Cook and myself were several times apprehended as German spies while in India."

Brooks returned to San Francisco to expect to have Dr. Cook's expedition to Chicago with the motion pictures taken in trip. He will leave here Wednesday for the east.

Dr. Cook's principal mission to India was to climb Mount Everest. He was not permitted to do so by the British authorities, Brooks says. The explorer's worst enemy was the lack of money. He was in a position where he was detained for some time by the authorities.

ASK MUNITION PLANTS

Ordinance Bureau Wants U. S. Explosives Manufacturers.

Washington, Dec. 27.—To free the United States army from its dependence for nitrates for the manufacture of explosives, Brigadier General Crozier, chief of the ordinance bureau, in his annual report today says that the government if necessary should develop the nitrate industry in the United States. The report says that the country now is dependent for nitrates on a foreign source which might be cut off in time of war.

A store of sodium nitrate, piled against sudden emergency, would not last any considerable time. The ordinance bureau is urged to insure an adequate source of supply in time of need.

The general says, has greatly increased American munitions plants since the outbreak of the war, and the army is now dependent on the present capacity of the plants and the willingness of the manufacturers to co-operate in safeguarding the nitrate industry.

Because of lack of funds, there was no increase except in field artillery during the year. In reserve equipment for the mobile army of 450,000 men estimated as immediately necessary as in time of war.

Study of lessons of the European war, the report says, has shown the necessity of increasing the production of heavy and light guns and of providing more machine guns.

BIRTHS REPORTED

Birth certificates recording the following births were filed with the city clerk this morning:

M. W. Lunsford and wife, 625

John E. Wadley and wife, 415 Lake,

December 20, a boy.

William C. Wadley and wife, 1322

Monroe, December 21, a girl.

Henry E. Crow and wife, 319 Polk,

December 24, a girl.

Jack Hickey and wife, 1220 Lime,

December 23, a boy.

To Try to Clear Ring Middle.

Milwaukee, Dec. 27.—Tom Andrews, agent for the promoters of the bout between Jess Willard and Fred Fulton, slated for next March, is here for New Orleans today saying he would attempt to clear up the tangled situation resulting from rumored hitches in negotiations for the bout at Chicago. Andrews expects to meet Tom Jones, Willard's manager, who will accompany him to New Orleans.

ATTACH DECISION

Railroads Want Rehearing on Two-Cent Fare Order.

Eleven Trunk Lines in Missouri Will File More Petitions.

THEY CHARGE DISCRIMINATION

Claim Rates Favor Kansas City, Kan., and East St. Louis.

Public Service Commission Recently Set New Schedule.

Jefferson City, Dec. 27.—A motion for a rehearing of the application of the railroads for an increase in interstate passenger and freight rates was filed with the Missouri public service commission today by the Washburn railway.

The petition says that the passenger and freight rates allowed by the commission in its recent ruling are lower than the rates authorized on interstate traffic by the interstate commerce commission.

The order of the commission that the railroad issue interchangeable mileage books at 2 cents a mile is opposed as discriminatory and as at variance with interstate rates.

Similar petitions for a rehearing, it is said, will be filed by eleven other trunk lines in Missouri within a few days.

The recent order of the public service commission provided for one-way passenger rates of 2 1/2 cents a mile round trip passenger fares of 2 1/2 and interchangeable and transferable mileage tickets at 2 cents a mile. Slight advances in certain freight rates also were authorized.

One petition did not ask a rehearing on the schedule of rates recently authorized by the public service commission only on certain parts. It is directed particularly against the mileage book order, and indicates that the railroad may take the matter to the federal court.

The petition says that a comparison of the public service commission rates with the interstate rates shows a discrimination on live stock shipments against Missouri points and in favor of Kansas City, Kansas, and East St. Louis.

OIL BUSINESS IS GOOD

Inspection Fees Have Netted the State \$110,796 This Year.

Oil inspection fees for the year just ending have brought the state \$123,829, according to a report filed today by the Governor. The report by Frank Cumiskey, state oil inspector, shows that the state netted \$110,796.37, after deducting the cost of inspection and other expenses.

Had the oil companies not blocked the inspection of the state inspection law through the use of fees under protest, the state would have realized net returns of \$110,796.37, according to the report. Most of the fees for the year, however, are now tied up in litigation and the suit testing the constitutionality of the present law.

From the gross fees of \$123,829, the state paid out \$13,032.92 for the inspection of the year amounted to 601,500 barrels of kerosene and 331,431 barrels of gasoline. The total amount of oil inspected was 932,931 barrels below the 1,233,000 barrel record for the year just ending.

HAYRACK OF MAIL

Topeka Postoffice Carries Packages in Good Old Rural Methods.

Some Christmas, when the postoffice people have to rent a hayrack on the twenty-seventh of December to the morning of the first of January, is a big thing to do. The hayrack is pulled by a team of horses and is loaded with mail sacks, each filled with packages for the carriers.

A helper accompanied the load and made the distribution. The hayrack is pulled by a team of horses and is loaded with mail sacks, each filled with packages for the carriers.

ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Snow Keeps President Indoors; Consider N. Y. Postmaster.

Hot Springs, Va., Dec. 27.—Heavy snow kept President Wilson indoors again today, and he devoted the morning to his private business in Washington. With Mrs. Wilson he planned to go motoring later in the day.

Among the questions before him was the selection of a postmaster for New York city, several applications for pardons and numerous routine executive orders.

GRABS TIME AS IT FLIES

Topeka Jeweler Erects Wireless Station Above His Store.

Timely advice is being given by C. A. Wolf, 725 Kansas avenue. A wireless telegraph grabs the exact second of noon as it is being sent out by the United States at Arlington, D. C., and Mr. Wolf sets his numerous regulators and clocks on that instant.

The regular clocks do not vary perceptibly but distress jewelers by being off a few thousandths of a second. The Arlington time is exact as far as can be figured and is the classic standard.

The wireless outfit was installed two weeks ago and consists of a receiving apparatus alone. A little detector feels its way through the atmosphere picking up the gossip here and there. The time is always sent out at 11 o'clock when the Arlington clock is looked for.

The waves coming by the second and going through a clock which is corrected by electricity into that

corresponding with Arlington. At ten seconds to noon the telegraph waits and then sends one tap which is the true noon or 11 o'clock western time. Calls of ocean liners, of seacoast cities, and from Ft. Riley and Ft. Leavenworth are frequent here. At different times of day the buzzing in the receiver becomes very loud.

"There are thirty amateur stations in Topeka alone run by boys," says Mr. Wolf, "some of the boys gave us our start."

antennae on the roof of the building are approximately sixty feet from the ground. There are four strands of wire 250 feet long, 1,000 feet of wire picking up messages.

GREEK KING ILL

French General, However, Finds Him Most Cordial.

Allies' Position at Saloniki Impregnable, Says Warrior.

Athens, Greece, Dec. 26.—Via Paris, Dec. 27.—"With our batteries of heavy artillery the men behind them it is impossible to dislodge the French from Saloniki," said General Castelnau, chief of the French general staff, in a statement given to the French Press. General Castelnau gave the interview after being received this morning by King Constantine at the French legation.

Many of the most important officers of the Greek army and navy and several of the king's closest friends attended the luncheon. General Castelnau's statement was submitted to the French minister, Jean Guillemin, and approved by him.

"The situation at Saloniki today is most excellent," the general continued. "I spent several days examining the ground. I must say I have rarely seen an emplacement which lends itself better to defense."

"I may say also that the position provides the most favorable conditions for offensive as well as defensive operations."

The general was asked whether the allies contemplate an offensive movement from Saloniki in the spring. "Spring will tell," he replied. "It is impossible to discount the exigencies of the military situation so far ahead. Should it be decided upon the offensive from Saloniki would be under decidedly favorable conditions."

"What impressions did you gain from your talk with the king?" the correspondent asked.

"I was deeply touched by the fact that his majesty, although in poor health, received me. He was most cordial. The Greeks have shown me every courtesy."

"And in France, general—how soon do you believe the war will be finished?"

"That does not matter. The most important thing is that victory is certain, sooner or later. In France every French man and woman is ready to go the whole way for a complete triumph. The French in France or here there will be no weakening. France is not only determined, France is sure."